

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : David J. Boothby
Serial No. : 09/240,563
Filed : January 29, 1999
Title : SYNCHRONIZATION OF DISPARATE DATABASES

Art Unit : 2771
Examiner : Rones, C.

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Group 2700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Cancel claim 1.

Add the following new claims:

1. A data processing method for synchronizing the data records of a plurality of disparate databases, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a status file containing data records reflecting the contents of data records existing in at least one of the disparate databases at the time of a prior synchronization;

comparing data records from at least one of a first and a second of the plurality of databases to corresponding data records of the status file to determine whether data records of the database have changed or been deleted since the prior synchronization or whether there are new data records since the earlier synchronization;

updating the first and second databases based on the outcome of the comparing step; and

updating the status file so that its data records reflect the contents of the data records after they have been updated,

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